



News From MAIENstreet

A Neighborhood Newsletter From Councilmember Brian Maienschein

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Proudly Representing the
District Five
Communities of:

Carmel Mountain Ranch
Mira Mesa
Rancho Bernardo
Sabre Springs
San Pasqual
Scripps Ranch
Sorrento Mesa

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Maienschein Announces Plan to Re-open Miramar Dam

I am so pleased to share with you that I was able to secure a plan to re-open the path across Miramar Dam. Re-opening this portion of the path means everyone who uses it for walking, jogging, biking and rollerblading will once again be able to circle the entire stretch. No longer will you reach the dead-end at the dam and have to turn around!

Re-opening the path has been one of my top priorities since it was closed shortly after the tragedies on September 11, 2001. The state Department of Health Services ordered it closed as a security precaution during the aftermath of that terrible time. While I certainly understand and support taking measures to ensure a safe and protected water supply, I have strongly disagreed with the state's method of doing so. Closing the dam has kept members of the community and recreational users out, not the supposed terrorists for which it was intended. While their intentions may have been good, the state's logic for closing such an important regional asset was very flawed. If terrorists were willing to hijack planes and fly them into skyscrapers, it is unlikely that a chain link barrier would keep them from their purpose.



However, as an additional precaution to opening the dam, the state has required the installation of an 8 foot high chain link fence on the side of the path closest to the water. I was able to secure the funding for the fence and the "No Trespassing" signs which will also be posted.

After the security fence and signs are in place, the state will issue an amendment to the Water Department's permit, which will once again allow public access to the road across the dam. The goal is to have the path open by July 1. The plan is to have the path open each day, unless the Department of Homeland Security raises the national terror threat level. At that time, the path will be closed until the threat of terror has passed.

I am elated to return this valuable recreational area to its original state for everyone in our community.

Maienschein Allocates \$400,000 to Infrastructure Improvements in District 5

I am pleased to announce that I am allocating over \$400,000 in federal Community Development Block Grant funding for many infrastructure upgrades throughout our district that will greatly help to improve compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

I will spend the \$400,000 in FY08 to address the current backlog of curb pedestrian ramps, audible pedestrian signals, parking lot and facility upgrades throughout the communities of Rancho Bernardo, Scripps Ranch, Mira Mesa, Carmel Mt. Ranch and Sabre Springs.

I believe that these much needed upgrades will greatly improve the quality of life for many families in our community by making our neighborhoods safer and more accessible.

Crosswalks Installed in Carmel Mt. Ranch and Sabre Springs



I am pleased to announce that I was recently able to secure funding for two crosswalks that have been installed in Carmel Mountain Ranch and Sabre Springs.

On May 16, 2007, I was joined by Highland Ranch Elementary Principal Anita Watson for the installation of a crosswalk at Eastbourne Road and Waverly Downs Way.

Creskide Elementary also received a new crosswalk at the intersection of Springside Road and Bridgewood Way.

It is important that our students are able to walk safely to and from school. I believe that these crosswalks will greatly help to ensure that crossing zones are more visible to motorists and will serve as a reminder to exercise greater caution when driving near students.



Speed Monitor Installed in Scripps Ranch



I am pleased to announce the installation of a new speed monitor on northbound Semillon Boulevard at the intersection of Kingspine Avenue in the Whispering Ridge neighborhood of Scripps Ranch. Speeding drivers have been a problem in this area for years. It is my hope that the sign will remind drivers to slow down.

On Wednesday, June 6, I turned on the new digital monitor. The sign flashes the speed drivers are traveling if they are driving over 35 mph.

The site for the monitor was selected after careful consideration by representatives from the Scripps Ranch Planning Group, and the City's Traffic Engineering Department. Thank you to SRPG for allocating funds to pay for the purchase and installation of the monitor, which operates entirely on solar power.

Maienschein Promotes Second Chance Adopt-a-Block Program

On May 17, 2007, I was pleased to join with the San Diego Youth Commission, the Second Chance Program and various sponsors to help promote the Second Chance Program's 13th annual Adopt-a-Block event. The event, which was held in the Encanto community on Saturday, May 19th from 8:00 A.M. to noon, brought together volunteers, community leaders and corporate sponsors to paint houses, remove weeds and clean-up litter in an effort to support and improve various San Diego neighborhoods.

The annual Adopt-a-Block event helps to raise awareness and necessary support for the Second Chance Program which provides services that are essential in helping the homeless and unemployed with jobs, housing and life skills.

The success rate of the Second Chance Program speaks for itself. I have always been a strong supporter of their organization and have encouraged the annual participation of the San Diego Youth Commission,

The San Diego Youth Commission, which I formed in 2001, has been an annual participant in the event.



*A Neighborhood Newsletter From
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<http://www.sandiego.gov/city-council/district-5>

From my website, you can also sign up to receive **e-News from MAIENstreet** every month via e-mail.

It's a pleasure to serve you on the San Diego City Council!